



ELIZABETH WILLIAMS

Elizabeth Williams, more commonly known as Betty Williams, was a peace activist from Northern Ireland. She was the cofounder of Community of Peace People, which is an organization dedicated to promoting peace in Northern Ireland. She was also the President of the World Centre of Compassion for Children International and the Chair of Institute for Asian Democracy.



Selected Quotations

- "We believe in taking down the barriers, but we also believe in the most energetic reconciliation among peoples by getting them to know each other, talk each other's languages, understand each other's fears and beliefs, getting to know each other physically, philosophically, and spiritually."
- "It is much harder to kill your near neighbor than the thousands of unknown and hostile aliens at the other end of a nuclear missile. We have to create a world in which there are no unknown, hostile aliens at the other end of any missiles."
- "God doesn't start wars. That's the greatest load of nonsense. Mankind starts wars. But then we bless armies to go and kill in God's name. Somebody's got to blow that myth out of the water."



Online Materials:

- [Betty Williams - Nobel Lecture \(1976\)](#)
- ["Peace in the World is Everybody's Business" - Lecture Manuscript \(2007\)](#)
- [Shameless Idealists - Interview with Betty Williams \(2011\)](#)

Further reading

- Mairead Corrigan and Betty Williams: Making Peace in Northern Ireland (Women Changing the World) (1998)